

Press Release National Labor Relations Board Office of the General Counsel

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National Nurses United Wins Election at University of Chicago Medical Center

In an election between two unions that were once part of the same organization, registered nurses at the University of Chicago Medical Center (UCMC) chose the petitioning union, National Nurses United (NNU) over the incumbent labor organization, Illinois Nurses Association (INA), by a vote of 627 to 335. Another 22 votes were cast against representation. There were a total of 1261 eligible voters.

The INA had been the representative of the UCMC nurses for more than 30 years. Its collective bargaining agreement expired in October 2009, and the union and the hospital began negotiating for a successor contract. Meanwhile, INA's national union, United American Nurses (UAN), AFL-CIO, merged with other national unions to form the National Nurses United (NNU), AFL-CIO. The new national union claimed INA as an affiliate. But the INA disagreed, and filed a lawsuit in federal court alleging that UAN violated its union constitution by entering into the merger. In March, NNU filed the petition to represent the UCMC nurses, and a stipulated election agreement was reached after much discussion between the parties.

Unless objections are filed to the election results, the NNU will be certified as the nurses' collective bargaining representative in early June.